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# Soviets Ask U.N. Ouster Be Modified

## Moscow Reportedly Would Be Willing To Free Daniloff

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The Soviet Union has offered to release American reporter Nicholas Daniloff—apparently without putting him on trial for espionage—provided the United States modifies its expulsion order for 25 members of the Soviet mission to the United Nations, according to non-Soviet East-bloc sources.

The Soviet proposal, which reportedly was relayed by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Secretary of State George P. Shultz on Tuesday, also would let the United States put an accused Soviet spy, Gennadi Zakharov, on trial in New York provided he is subsequently allowed to return home, the East European sources said.

The Soviets were also reported by East-bloc sources to be willing to release several dissidents, including some Jews, as part of a package deal for Daniloff's release. It was not clear whether they were offering to release the dissidents before or after Zakharov's trial.

Administration officials insisted yesterday that the United States would not rescind its expulsion of the Soviet U.N. mission members as part of a deal involving Daniloff's release. "We have not changed our policy on this," an official said.

But one administration source familiar with the negotiations suggested a compromise might be possible on the names of those specified on the expulsion list. The names have never been made public, but U.S. officials told reporters last week that they were all intelligence agents.

However, the administration source said yesterday that the United States is more certain about the intelligence links of some of the 25 named officials than about others.

This was the first hint that the administration might be considering some compromise involving the 25 Soviet diplomats as part of an overall deal to secure Daniloff's release without swapping him for Zakharov. Heretofore, U.S. officials, including Shultz, have insisted there would be no going back on the decision that those Soviets named in the U.S. expulsion order would have to leave by Oct. 1, the deadline the administration has set for a first reduction of the Soviet U.N. mission to 218 members.

The East European sources did not say what "modification" precisely the Soviets were seeking in the expulsion order.

Shultz, who held two meetings with Shevardnadze Tuesday over the Daniloff case, was not scheduled to meet with him yesterday. Both men are in New York where they are attending the opening session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The Soviet foreign minister, asked by reporters about his talks with Shultz, said he had given him "good proposals" for the resolution of the Daniloff case and said "the chance still remains" for its resolution.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said, however, that as of yesterday afternoon he had "nothing" to report advancing the state of the negotiations beyond where they stood Tuesday night.

Administration sources said Shultz's second, late-night meeting Tuesday with Shevardnadze, which lasted 90 minutes, had involved a

broad discussion of several possible solutions and the timing of the release of several dissidents in exchange for Zakharov.

An administration official described the process as "a very complex negotiation."

The officials said there were conflicting views about the timing, with the Soviets initially offering to free the dissidents only after Zakharov's release.

This was politically unacceptable to the Reagan administration, the sources said, because it would look like a straight swap for Daniloff. The Soviets then offered as a sweetener to allow one dissident to go free first, the sources said.

The U.S. counterproposal could not be learned.

The Soviet attempt to modify the U.S. order expelling 25 U.N. mission members poses a new challenge to the administration, which has repeatedly expressed its determination to end the Soviet use of that diplomatic mission for spying.

*Staff writer Lou Cannon contributed to this report.*

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